

REMARKS


This application is filed as a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/129,885. A FINAL Office Action was issued for the '885 application on September 24, 2003, and Applicants have filed a Petition for a Three Month Extension in the '885 application to extend the pendency of the '885 application to March 24, 2004. Thus, the '885 application is co-pending with the present application, at the time of filing of the present application. A copy of the Petition filed in the '885 application is attached to this Preliminary Amendment.

During the prosecution of the '885 application, the Examiner required restriction between claims 1-2 drawn to a container and claims 3-8 drawn to a packaging method. Claims 3-8 were withdrawn from the '885 application as being drawn to the non-elected invention. Thus, Applicants request that method claims 3-8 be prosecuted in the present divisional application.

Therefore, claims 1-2 have been canceled, and new method claims 9-19 have been added. No new matter was added. Thus, Applicants respectfully request consideration of method claims 3-19.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment for entering this Preliminary Amendment to our deposit account no. 08-3040.

Respectfully submitted,
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